

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3462

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, GV, ML

SUBJ: PRESIDENT TRAORE'S VISIT TO GUINEA

REF: CONAKRY 439

1. MALI OFFICIAL MEDIA GAVE WEEK-LONG COVERAGE TO PRESIDENT MOUSSA TRAORE'S MARCH 1 AND 2 VISIT TO GUINEA. IN ADDITION TO FULL COVERAGE ON RADIO MALI, THE DAILY L'ESSOR RAN A FOUR-ARTICLE SERIES AND CARRIED A FULL-PAGE PHOTO ESSAY ON THE TRIP. THE MEDIA HAVE, HOWEVER, GIVEN FEW DETAILS ON THE TRIP'S PURPOSE OR ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

2. IN ITS LEAD ARTICLE ON THE TRAORE TRIP, L'ESSOR CLAIMED THAT GUINEA AND MALI WERE TWO LUNGS OF THE SAME BODY. THE TWO COUNTRIES UNDERSTOOD THE NEED TO TIGHTEN BONDS OF COOPERATION IN THE FIGHT

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FOR THE LIBERATION, UNITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA.

MALI AND GUINEA, ALONG WITH OTHER PROGRESSIVE STATES, SAID THE REPORT, WOULD BUILD AN AFRICA WHERE MAN SUFFERED ONLY FROM OPULENCE. IN A MORE PRACTICAL TONE, THE ARTICLE NOTED THAT THE CHIEFS OF STATE MET FOR 150 MINUTES IN OFFICIALS TALKS ON COOPERATION IN TRANSPORT, MINES, PUBLIC WORKS, COMMUNICATIONS AND HYDROLOGY.

3. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY WAS WELL FETED IN GUINEA. THE MALIANS WERE PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED WITH THE BAUXITE MINING AND REFINING FACILITIES, WHICH THE PRESS, IGNORING MULTINATIONAL INPUTS, HAILED AS AN EXAMPLE OF AN AFRICAN COUNTRY DEVELOPING ITS OWN RESOURCES. MALIAN ELITES ARE OBVIOUSLY PROUD OF THE RECEPTION GIVEN THEIR PRESIDENT.
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